

Remarks

Claims 35 and 37-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 35, 36, 41 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,642,120 ("Nevo"). Claims 35-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,294,446 ("Schlameus"). Claim 43 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Nevo in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,904,259 ("Itay"). Claims 42-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Schlameus in view of Itay. Claims 37-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Nevo in view of Schlameus. Claims 25, 26, 32, 33, 35, 41 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Nevo in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,292,514 ("Capecchi") and U.S. Patent No. 5,804,178 (Vacanti). Claims 34 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 25, 26, 32, 33, 35, 41, and 42 above and further in view of Itay. Claims 28-31 and 27-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 25, 26, 32, 33, 35, 41, and 42 above and further in view of Schlameus. Claims 25, 26, 28-32, 35, and 37-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Schlameus in view of Capecchi and Vacanti. Claims 33, 34, 42, and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 25, 26, 32, 33, 35, 41, and 42 above and further in view of Itay.

Claims 27 and 44-52 are allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that these claims are allowable.

Applicant respectfully traverses all the above rejections to the claims. Nonetheless, in the interests of advancing the application to allowance, the rejected claims have been cancelled from the application. Claims 28-34 were multiple dependent claims. These claims depended either directly or indirectly from both rejected claim 25 and allowed claim 27. The dependency from claim 25 has been removed by amendment. As amended, claims 28-34 trace their dependencies to independent claim 27. The Examiner indicates that claim 27 is allowable. As a result, Applicant submits that claims 28-34 are also allowable.

A Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and the appropriate fee is included herewith. Please charge any additional fees associated with this filing, or apply any credits, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Valarie B. Rosen", written over a horizontal line.

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